

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03097 270622Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 270543Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO JOHN L. REILLY

HUNT-WESSON FOODS, INC.

1645 W. VALENCIA DRIVE

FULLERTON, CALIF. 92634

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3393

UNCLAS KUWAIT 3097

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, KU

SUBJ: KUWAIT FOOD LAWS

1. SITUATION RE IMPORT OF FOOD PRODUCTS REMAINS SAME AS IN
CABLE OF 7/14/75 TO GEORGE FUNK, HUNT-WESSON.

2. KUWAIT FOOD LAW STATES ALL IMPORTED FOODS MUST BEAR LABEL
IN ARABIC DESCRIBING CONTENTS, PLACE OF ORIGIN, DATE OF
MANUFACTURE, AND DATE OF EXPIRY OF QUALITY OF PRODUCT. TOMATO
PAST INCLUDED. ENGLISH OR OTHER LANGUAGEES ARE PERMISSABLE IN
ADDITION TO ARABIC. LAW TO TAKE EFFECT OCT. 31, 1975.

3. LOCAL IMPORTERS UNHAPPY OVER LAW AND GOVERNMENT HAS APPOINTED
COMMITTEE TO STUDY REGULATIONS WITH POSSIBILITY THAT ARABIC
LABELING REQUIREMENTS WILL BE DROPPED. FOOD STILL ARRIVING IN
KUWAIT WITHOUT ARABIC LABELING AND WITHOUT DATES OF MANUFACTURE
AND EXPIRATION OF PRODUCT QUALITY.

4. GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN NO GUIDELINES REGARDING WHAT IT CONSIDERS
PROPER IN DATING SHELF LIFE OF PRODUCT. THIS APPARENTLY
LEFT UP TO EXPORTERS OR MANUFACTURES.

5. SUGGEST YOU CONTACT LOCAL AGENT REGARDING HIS VIEWS. ALSO
SUGGEST YOU CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF ARABIC/ENGLISH LABEL FOR
YOUR PRODUCTS IN ARAB COUNTRIES OR PASTE-ON PAPER LABEL FOR
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 03097 270622Z

USE BY LOCAL IMPORTER. ARABIC LABELS COULD BE EFFECTIVE SALES TOOL

IF YOUR MARKET IN MIDDLE EAST IS LARGE ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY ANY
INCREASED PRODUCTION COSTS.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUWAIT03097
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750259-0253
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750717/aaaaapay.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 MAR 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <15 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAIT FOOD LAWS
TAGS: BEXP, KU
To: COM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006